

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03545 131424Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SP-02  
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-01 /140 W  
-----040985 140009Z /73

R 131328Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1211  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
USLO RIYADH  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ENRG, ELTIN  
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SUBJ: SARG PROPOSAL FOR NEW GULF-MEDITERRANEAN PIPELINE

REF: DAMASCUS 2966

1. REFTTEL REPORTED THAT AT ORGANIZATION OF ARAB PETROLEUM  
EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OAPEC) MEETING IN KUWAIT MAY 8-9, SYRIAN  
PETROLEUM MINISTER DARWISH PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A "STRATEGIC

PIPELINE" LINKING THE OIL PRODUCING GULF STATES WITH THE MEDITERRANEAN. COMMENTING ON PROPOSAL RECENTLY TO ECON CHIEF, SENIOR OAPEC ADVISOR DR. ABDEL-AZIZ WATTARI SAID THAT SYRIANS HAD SPRUNG THE IDEA OF THE PIPELINE, AND JOINT ARAB PETROLEUM VENTURES IN REFINING AND PETROCHEMICALS, ON THE OAPEC MEETING WITH NO ADVANCE NOTICE. HE COMMENTED DRYLY THAT "THOSE WITH THE LEAST OIL ALWAYS SEEM TO COME UP WITH THE MOST AMBITIOUS PROPOSALS", AND ADDED THAT HE THOUGHT THE PIPELINE IDEA HAD LITTLE CHANCE OF SUCCESS UNLESS THE SAUDIS WERE ENTHUSIASTICALLY BEHIND IT, WHICH HE DOUBTED. IN ANY EVENT, HE CONCLUDED, SUCH A STRATEGIC PIPELINE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO BE LINKED TO THE DAMMAM-YENBO PIPELINE, STILL YEARS AWAY FROM COMPLETION.

2. COMMENT: WATTARI COULD BE ACCUSED OF BIAS IN VIEWING ANY SYRIAN PROPOSALS, SINCE HE WAS IRAQI OIL MINISTER IN THE MIN 60'S. VERY MUCH THE ACADEMIC RATHER THAN A POLITICAL ACTIVIST, WATTARI HAS A PHD FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN ECONOMICS, IS NOW FINISHING A BOOK ON OIL ECONOMICS AND WILL BE TEACHING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN NEXT YEAR. HIS VIEWS PROBABLY REFLECT THOSE OF OTHER COLLEAGUES AT OAPEC AND THE MANY GULF OIL MINISTRY OFFICIALS WITH WHOME HE IS IN CONTACT. THEY SUPPORT EMBASSY DAMASCUS' CONCLUSION (REFTEL) THAT THE SYRIAN PROPOSAL IS "NOT FOR TODAY...OR EVEN TOMORROW ...IF EVER".

SUTHERLAND

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, MEETINGS, PIPELINES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KUWAIT03545  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780247-0565  
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**Litigation Code IDs:**  
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**Message ID:** 1e5f498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Reference:** 78 DAMASCUS 2966  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2376315  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SARG PROPOSAL FOR NEW GULF-MEDITERRANEAN PIPELINE  
**TAGS:** ENRG, ELTN, XF, OAPEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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